THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, 5th January 1954.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at nine of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I,—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have put down as many as 39 questions and I want to go through them in time. We shall first take up short notice questions."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, I was not informed that my question (No. 297-A) put down as the first short notice question to be answered, would come up for answer to-day. Generally we used to get notice. I would request you to take it up tomorrow."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" My question also relates to the same subject as question No. 297-A."

MR. SPEAKER :—" If the hon. Members want that their questions should be taken up tomorrow, I have no objection. Short notice questions No. 297-A and No. 297-B will be taken up to-morrow."

Promulgation of section 144 of Criminal Procedure Code in Vellore town.

* 297-C *Q.*—SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for bringing into operation section 144 in Vellore town, North Arcot district, recently; and

(*b*) why police constables are guarding the statue of Gandhiji?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) An order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, had been in force in parts of Vellore town consequent on a clash between Hindus and Muslims on 23rd November 1953. On 4th December 1953, the Municipal Council, Vellore, passed a resolution by a narrow majority to invite Sri C. N. Annadorai to unveil the statue of Gandhiji in the public park, Vellore, and it was reported that a number of Councillors of the Vellore Municipality resented this decision and were attempting to get it cancelled. It was also brought to the notice of the Government that a section of the public were agitated considerably over the decision of the Municipal Council. Fearing that all this may lead to breaches of peace, the Collector

of North Arcot took steps to extend the operation of the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, already in force to the other areas of the town where there was likelihood of trouble and at the same time banning processions and meetings excepting the function connected with the unveiling of the statue itself as also other customary and religious processions.

" (*b*) To prevent any possible unauthorized and secret attempt to interfere with the statue or the arrangements made for its unveiling before the date fixed for the function by any dissident groups and organizations, the Collector provided police protection for the statue. The Government also took unofficial measures to advise those who were expected to listen to their advice to let the decision of the Municipal Council be carried out peacefully."

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :— "வேலூரிலே இப்போதும் கலவரம் இருக்கிறதா? கலவரம் அமைதியான பிறகும் எதற்காக 144 நீடிக்கவேண்டும் ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" As to what is to be done hereafter will be decided by the Government and as soon as possible, orders will be withdrawn. But feelings continue and sometimes, advantage may be taken of the withdrawal of the order, which we do not like."

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :— "காந்தி சிலையை அண்ணுதுரை திறப்பதால் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் ஆத்திரம் அடைந்து அந்த சிலையை அவர்கள் திறக்கவேண்டுமென்று முயற்சி செய்தது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ? அப்படித் தெரிந்தால் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் மீது என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரிந்துகொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am sorry the hon. Member does not seem to have followed my answer. I have dealt with the subject-matter of the question very fully."

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" Was there any clash between the rival parties with reference to the question of unveiling of the statue prior to the issue of the order? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am not quite sure. But I think that there was no clash but was only an apprehension of a clash. There was sufficient evidence to show that a clash might occur at any time."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" To which political opinion was the threat to peace traced before the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was promulgated? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is not a matter of opinion. Some people think that it is only out of opinion but it is not that. The actual feelings that have been developed have to be dealt with. That is the point and opinion becomes unimportant."

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SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :— "காந்தியாருக்கு விரோதபாவமான வெள்ளைக்காரர்களும், பாகிஸ்தான் தலைவர்களும் அவரது சவச் சமாதிமேல் மாலையிடும்போது, காந்தியார் சிலையை அண்ணாதுரை திறப்பதால் தீட்டு வந்து விடுமா ? சிலையைத் திறக்கும்போது மூன்று காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் அங்கு நின்றுகொண்டு கலவரம் செய்தது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ? ஏகப்பட்ட போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்து இருந்ததும் சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"I have dealt with all that is being asked by the hon. Member, in advance in my original answer. He wants to know why Congress should object to the proposal. He asked why Congressmen should object unreasonably to Gandhiji's statue being unveiled by a person who might be differing in politics but who wished to pay his tribute of admiration to Gandhiji. I entirely agree with him and that is why I thought it was wrong on the part of the agitated members of the public to interfere with the statue and put policemen to prevent such interference."

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :— "காந்தி சிலையைத் திறக்க அனுமதி கொடுத்த சர்க்கார், ஏன் என்னுடைய தலைமையில் நடக்கவிருந்த கூட்டத்திற்கு மட்டும் 144 போடுவானேன் ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"I did not know, Sir, that the hon. Member had a grievance." (Laughter.)

Report of the Tripartite Enquiry Committee.

* 297-D *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the recommendations made by the Tripartite Enquiry Committee with regard to labourers;

(*b*) when the report of the Committee was received by the Government; and

(*c*) when it will be published?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—"(*a*) The recommendations of the Tripartite Enquiry Committee are numerous and cannot be answered to a question. Printed copies of the report will be placed in the Legislature library for reference by the members.

"(*b*) The report was received by the Government in April 1953.

"(*c*) Printing of the report is likely to be over by the middle of January 1954."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :— "அவைகள் எப்போது அமுலுக்கு வருமென்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லவேண்டும்."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—"This is only a recommendation of the Committee. There is no question of the Government implementing it. It is open to managements and labour to implement as many of the agreed suggestions as they are willing to have implemented."